

FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION

WisDOT I.D. 0410-40-40/0499-10-39

Milwaukee-Madison Passenger Rail Corridor Project
in Milwaukee, Waukesha, Jefferson and Dane Counties, Wisconsin
from Milwaukee Amtrak Station to Dane County Regional Airport/Monona Terrace in Madison

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Submitted Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(c) and 49 U.S.C. 303

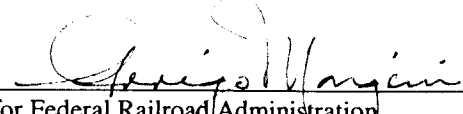
by the

U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Railroad Administration
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
and
National Railroad Passenger Corporation

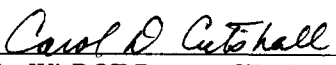
Cooperating Agency:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District

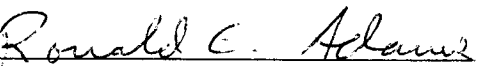
6-4-01
Date of Approval


for Federal Railroad Administration

5/31/01
Date of Approval


for WisDOT Bureau of Environment

5/31/01
Date of Approval


for WisDOT Bureau of Railroads and Harbors

The following person may be contacted for additional information concerning this document:

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The Wisconsin Department of Transportation and the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak), are proposing to re-introduce passenger rail service between Milwaukee and Madison, Wisconsin. The Federal Railroad Administration has agreed to serve as the lead federal agency for the project. The 85-mile (136-kilometer) route would use existing CP Railway mainline tracks from Milwaukee to Madison. Reintroducing passenger rail service between Milwaukee and Madison (which links to the existing Chicago-Milwaukee rail service) would provide an alternative travel mode that avoids and minimizes additional environmental impact. The passenger rail service would initially start with six round trips per day in late 2003, ultimately increasing to ten round trips after 2005, as service is extended to Minneapolis/St. Paul. Intermediate stops are proposed at the cities of Brookfield, Oconomowoc, and Watertown, Wisconsin. Maximum operating speed in the corridor would be 110 mph (180 kph). Important issues raised by review agencies and the public include impacts from grade crossing closures, safety, noise, vibration, property values, aesthetics, neighborhood cohesion, and wildlife crossings.

Comments on this Environmental Assessment should be received by July 27, 2001, and should be sent to Ms. Rose Phetteplace, District Director, at the above address.